

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Douglas Todd Hayden

Serial No.: 10/759,819

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Docket No.: 10002614-1

Title: BUS DEVICE INSERTION AND REMOVAL SYSTEM

DRAWINGS

The drawings have been amended to include Figure 9 in a New Sheet of the Figures.

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REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed April 6, 2006. Claims 1-11 and 31-36 were rejected. With this Amendment and Response, claim 8 has been cancelled and claims 34-36 have been amended. Claims 1-7, 9-11, and 31-36 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the limitations of claims 8, 34, and 36 must be shown or the features canceled from the claim(s).

Features claimed in claims 34 and 36 are shown in new Figure 9. No new matter has been added as Figure 9 corresponds to Figure 2 with staggered signal contacts. Also, the features of claims 34 and 36 were originally disclosed in the specification at paragraphs [0031], [0033], and [0048]. Claim 8 has been cancelled.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Objection to the Drawings be removed.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claim 8 has been cancelled so the rejection no longer applies.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 9-10, 31-33 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being unpatentable over Satoh (U.S. Patent No. 5,729,062).

The Satoh Patent is directed to an active plug-in circuit that includes a mode setting section that sets either a plug-in mode or a regular mode depending on the power source voltage of the package. When the plug-in mode is set, a power consumption controller maintains an electronic circuit built in the package in a low power consumption mode. After the power source voltage of the electronic circuit has been stabilized, the mode setting section sets the regular mode. The active plug-in circuit is capable of reducing the variation of a power source current occurring when the power source pin of a package connector is

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connected to the corresponding terminal of a mother board connector and during the transition from a plug-in mode to a regular mode.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Satoh Patent fails to teach or suggest contacts configured to provide at different times during insertion and removal contact between a pre-charge circuit and one of the signal lines, and a low-impedance across the pre-charge circuit, as recited in independent claims 1 and 31. Also, the Satoh Patent fails to teach or suggest contact between a pre-charge circuit and one of the signal lines, as recited in independent claims 1 and 31. In addition, the Satoh Patent fails to teach or suggest a low-impedance across the pre-charge circuit, as recited in independent claims 1 and 31. In contrast, the Satoh Patent is directed to power supply contacts and reducing the variation of a power source current transferred via the power supply contacts. The package connector has a clock terminal and a data terminal connected to the electronic circuit via switches, where the arrangement is for setting the low power consumption mode in the electronic circuit to reduce the variation of a power source current.

The Satoh Patent also fails to teach or suggest a connector system including a first connector and a second connector, where the first connector is configured to provide a first pre-charge circuit between the second connector and a first bus signal line, as recited in independent claim 31. Also, the Satoh Patent fails to teach or suggest the second connector configured to provide a first short-circuit between the second connector and the first bus signal line. In addition, the Satoh Patent fails to teach or suggest where the first connector and the second connector are staggered to provide the first pre-charge circuit and the first short-circuit at different times during engagement and disengagement of the connector system. In contrast, the Satoh Patent is directed to power supply contacts and reducing the variation of a power source current occurring when the power source pin of a package connector is connected to the corresponding terminal of a mother board connector and during the transition from a plug-in mode to a regular mode.

The Satoh Patent also fails to teach, suggest, or motivate one to modify the reference to achieve the claimed limitations recited in independent claims 1 and 31. Satoh does not teach, suggest, or motivate one to modify the clock terminal or the data terminal to include any circuitry attached to the power supply contacts.

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In view of the above, Applicant submits that all features of independent claim 1 and all features of independent claim 31 are not taught or suggested by the Satoh Patent. Applicant respectfully submits that the above rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 should be withdrawn.

Dependent claim 35 has been amended to depend from claim 32. Dependent claims 2-6, 9-10, 32, 33, and 35 depend either directly or indirectly upon corresponding independent claims 1 and 31. Accordingly, dependent claims 2-6, 9-10, 32, 33, and 35 are also allowable over the art of record.

The Examiner rejected claim 7 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being unpatentable over Satoh, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Paul Li.

The Examiner rejected claim 11 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being unpatentable over Satoh, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of The I²C Specification.

The Examiner rejected claims 34 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being unpatentable over Satoh, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Liencre, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,644,731).

Dependent claims 34-36 have been amended to depend from claim 32. Dependent claims 7, 11, and 34-36 depend either directly or indirectly upon corresponding independent claims 1 and 31. Accordingly, dependent claims 7, 11, and 34-36 are also allowable over the art of record.

Applicant respectfully submits that the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 should be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-7, 9-11, and 31-36 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-7, 9-11, and 31-36 are respectfully requested.

No fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(h)(i). However, if such fees are required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Steven E. Dicke at Telephone No. (612) 573-2002, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005, or Richard J. Stokey at Telephone No. (281) 518-3184, Facsimile No. (281) 514-8332. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Todd Hayden,

By his attorneys,

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Date: June 29, 2006

SED:uw

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being transmitted via facsimile to Facsimile No. (571) 273-8300 on this 29 day of June, 2006.

By: Steven E. Dicke
Name: Steven E. Dicke